



Georgia On My Mind

Monthly Newsletter of the ARRL Georgia Section

August, 2022



SUMMER IS HERE !!

24x7 Winlink Net

W4AKH has a 24 x 7 Winlink net. It is open to everyone. They post a map each week of the participants. I just checked the map and noticed four Georgia stations to include our SEC Lee Stone KT4LS as active participants. Let's get more of our Georgia stations on the map!

In addition to accepting traffic thru the normal RMS/CMS path, they have several stations in P2P mode. Check their web page for P2P station list, frequency, mode and time schedule. Take advantage of operating P2P!

See there web page for more information: <https://w4akh.net/> Follow directions for the subject line to the letter! They use the subject line for mapping participants.

73's Mark N7GRB
Technical Specialist, Georgia Section

Georgia SSB Association Awards

Most of you know Charles Pennington K4GK. He's a Georgia Amateur Radio historical figure. If you've participated in any state-wide nets, then at some point you have checked-in with Charles. Charles is known for his ability to have your call sign and name down in the log before you complete your check-in.

Charles K4GK was recognized for this life-long skill and for receiving an award from the Georgia Single Side-band Net Association along with Terry Cantrell W4WTC. Charles was awarded the 2022 Georgia SSB Association Lifetime Achievement Award and Terry was awarded the 2022 Georgia SSB Association Ham Of The Year. You can visit the Georgia Single Side-band Net website for photographs and more details – <https://gssaradio.net/>

Audrey McElroy, KM4BUN, an 18-year-old student who recently started her studies at Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech), will be presented with the 2022 Bill Pasternak WA6ITF Memorial Amateur Radio Newline Young Ham of the Year award at the Huntsville Hamfest. In July, the ARRL Foundation awarded McElroy a \$25,000 scholarship, sponsored by Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC).

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/?issue=2022-08-11>

Audrey McElroy, KM4BUN (right) seen here with her brother, Jack McElroy, KM4ZIA [Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, photo]



Charles Pennington, K4GK



Terry Cantrell, W4WTC

To see previous issues of **Georgia on My Mind**:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1DOPUoxeBBLii8coZB6fDrLYbaI9_9pN?usp=sharing

Radio Club News

Atlanta Radio Club

The video of the July 7 ARC meeting has been posted to YouTube. It features Jeff Hilliard, AK6OK presenting on Spectrum Analyzers and Oscilloscopes. Instead of the normal slide presentations by our zoom presenters, Jeff actually demoed his spectrum analyzer and oscilloscope using a dedicated camera. Did you know that you can use a spectrum analyzer to find the resonant points on an antenna? We didn't, but we know now.

Watch the video. It's educational and fun.

https://youtu.be/h1JCQg_pHzs

73, Rob Osattin, KI4UTY
Program Director | Atlanta Radio Club

Etowah Valley Amateur Radio Club

Here's a shot of our AT Golden Packet setup at Clingmans Dome with John Bates - NT1I at the helm... <https://atgoldenpacket.net/>
How did it go this year?

Did it make the full trip from GA to MA?

We were tracking 1-5 but I think 6 or 7 had some config issues.

Around 2pm Springer had a glitch and GDHILL had a storm roll in on them so that brought it to an end. Good effort by all!



West Georgia Amateur Radio Society

Activating the Cheaha State Park, Alabama for POTA



Free STEM week

Calling All Teachers! Would You like an all expenses paid week of Free STEM and Wireless Technology? Would you like to have support from the Largest Amature Radio Foundation in the World to Start a Wireless Technology/HAM Radio program in your School? Well Here is the Opportunity!!! Contact me if you have any questions!! Read the data in the link provided it should have all the information you need!! Sign up Soon for the August Deadline for the Next Session in October!!!!

Don't be Late!!

73 DE K4KHO The Metro Atlanta Ham!!

http://www.arrl.org/teachers-institute-on-wireless-technology?fbclid=IwAR37EVUtwyoKTFs-tfhkaOUk1oB54m5zujePfQczXBHN6Nd26_wpNTxXQ

Radio Club News

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

2022 Aviation Summer Camp

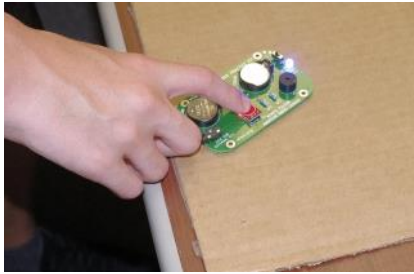
On behalf of Louis Pucci, Chapter President, Gay Roberts, EAA Summer Camp Director and all those who participated in the 2022 Aviation Summer Camp I would like to thank those GARS members who helped make it another success. 2022 was the 10th year for the summer camp and the second year we used the Code Practice Oscillators supplied by NFARL to teach the art of soldering.



This year we had 12 kids in the Alpha Group who participated and as you can see from the photo's they all learned enough to

complete the boards with just a few minor hot fingers. All but one CPO worked with minor touch-up.

Following the soldering session an attempt was made to demonstrate ham radio and talk a bit about GARS and Ham Radio. Unfortunately, on Friday morning the bands were largely closed although some weak CW was heard with the limited equipment.



Next year will be better!

An especial thanks to GARS members (in alpha order); Paul Branson, Paul Kelley, Ralph Pickwick, Joel Levine, Mike Weathers, Earl Whatley and Randy Woolery.



Columbus Amateur Radio Club

The CARC held another build event at the Harris County library in Hamilton, GA. We gathered to build a foxhunt offset attenuator kit that will be used later in actual foxhunt (hidden transmitter) exercises.



Six club members and one club officer built the small kits and all seemed to work when everyone finished. Thanks go to Matt King, AK4MK for putting the event together and to Jamey Kent, K4JDK and Barry Odum, AK4PY for assisting. After the build was finished we all went outside and Barry demonstrated how the attenuator is used with a hand-held Yagi antenna to successfully find the hidden fox transmitter. As usual, many thanks to the staff of the library for allowing us to use their nice facility for our project.



Radio Club News

Cherokee County Amateur Radio Club

July 16-17 was a special event for Parks On The Air. It was the Summer Award Plaque activity that is part of the seasonal "Support Your Parks" event. The Cherokee Amateur Radio Society of Woodstock has recently begun a POTA special interest group that participated in the event. Club participation in POTA is new and seems to have a very high interest by the members. POTA has made it easier for clubs to get involved and for them to use a club call sign, but still get individual POTA points credit for the operators. You must follow the submission guidelines for the logs and your club must register the club callsign as a POTA activator.

The CARS team activated Red Top Mountain State Park on Saturday July 16 with 6 members. Using QRP radios on 20 and 40 meters, the team managed to get 13 states and 9 park-to-park (P2P) contacts in the short time we had to operate. The team was really enthused about the results. The furthest contact was with another activated park in Washington State using just 10 watts.

Award certificates were given to all people and teams that participated in the event. (See awards section)

We can see that this activity would work well for any club and we encourage others to try it. This is really a perfect activity to invite new hams to participate and learn HF operating skills while gaining points for POTA. Hope to see you out in the State and National Parks!

By Martin Buehring, KB4MG

Bruce, K4OTX at Red Top Mountain, operating 40m SSB



Coastal Amateur Radio Society

The Wednesday No Work Club activated the Wormsloe K-3725 POTA site. It was a nice morning to out in the fresh air. We are facing the river which makes a great backdrop. 56 contacts scattered all around the country, Canada and one in Puerto Rico. We used a Yaesu FT 891 and a Pacific antenna inverted V.



Pictured left to right Russ K4YGD, Bill KG4SZS, Jack NW4TF. Not pictured Lowell KY4D

Interesting Links:

ARRL Digital editions are now Online! [QEX](#), [NCJ](#) August [QST](#), and July/August [On the Air](#)

Huntsville, AL Hamfest August 20-21, 2022
www.hamfest.org

Fred VanDaele of the Monroe County Radio Communications Association shared:
<https://www.onallbands.com/solar-cycle-25-update-what-hams-should-know/>

George Kutcher of the ARC of Butts County
<https://www.onallbands.com/guide-to-august-2022-ham-radio-contests/>

Yusef - Meet the "Coffee and Ham Radio Group"
<https://youtu.be/9fj6ojlFcRI>

Radio Club News

West Georgia Amateur Radio Society

The West Georgia Amateur Radio Society launched a high altitude weather balloon on Saturday August the 6th. The launch was from the club shack at the VFW fairgrounds in Carrollton, Georgia. It turned out to be a beautiful day for such an activity. Clear skies and a nice breeze in the morning getting ready for a 10:15 a.m. launch. The predicted track put together by Blake, N4BWR, had the balloon coming down somewhere off Hwy 431 in the Oxford/Anniston Alabama area.

The payload on the balloon included APRS, a Crossband repeater, video camera, as well as a multitude of sensors (Outside Temperature, Ascent Rate, Descent Rate, etc.) This was put together by Brian, WX4BK.



The balloon launching was definitely a group effort. Once in the air, we began tracking its ascent immediately on APRS. Assembling in the club shack with our resident meteorologist Bryant, WX4EVR was Richard, KN4FRP (who was actually the first to find the payload after landing), several of us watched the movement.



Once the chase was on, a rather large group began to make their way down Interstate 20 at rates of speed which we don't discuss here. Thankfully, the APRS transmitter stayed on the air and going strong until recovery. Joshua, KF4DVW, had assembled a mobile digipeater and I-Gate due to the lack of such stations in the area where the balloon was predicted

to come down. This wonderful mobile I-Gate kept even those with just cell phones using APRS.FI up to date on the progress of W4FWD-11.



The payload came down in a residential area. Fortunately for us, the homeowner was as excited about it as we were. When we told her why all of these vehicles were crowding around her front yard she wanted a run-down on the balloon, ham radio, etc. We were very fortunate it came down in her yard.



If you would like to see video footage of the launch and the recovery, they are both available at our facebook site facebook.com/WGARS.



Radio Club News

TriCounty Amateur Radio Club

The Tri County Amateur Radio Club is home to amateur radio operators and radio enthusiasts in portions of Barrow, Gwinnett, Hall and Jackson counties in GA



Great meeting tonight! Go boxes were a hit!
Lots of cool tech and gadgets!



From an ARISS press release:

Kjell Lindgren, KO5MOS, continues making general contacts on the cross-band repeater. He is using NA1SS. If any crew member is so inclined, all they have to do is pick up the microphone, raise the volume up, and talk on the crossband repeater. So give a listen, you just never know.



ISS QSO by Joe Domaleski KI4ASK

The International Space Station (ISS) is sponsored by Canada, Japan, Russia, the USA and many nations in Europe. ISS crews hail from these and other nations. Major hardware elements are:

- Zarya, Zvezda, Pirs, research modules Poisk and MRM-1 Rassvet built by Russia
- Science lab Destiny, Unity, Quest, Harmony and Tranquility modules provided by the US
- Canadian Mobile Servicing System, a 55-foot mobile robotic arm used for assembly and maintenance

- Columbus module, a science laboratory provided by ESA

- Kibo module, a science laboratory provided by Japan.

CREW-LINDGREN-KOSMOS

ISS crews and visitors often use their Amateur Radio station, first set up in Zarya and then Zvezda, to talk with school students to aid in their education, plus chat with fellow radio amateurs around the world. The ARISS Team continually works to extend ISS Amateur Radio station capability with new operation modes and, more recently, equipment placement in the Columbus module.

To *KI4ASK*

From	Day	Month	Year	UTC	MHz
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA1SS	<i>25</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2105</i>	<i>2m / 70cm</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> RS0ISS					
<input type="checkbox"/> OR4ISS					
Mode: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voice	<input type="checkbox"/> Packet	<input type="checkbox"/> SSTV	<input type="checkbox"/> APRS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Repeater	<input type="checkbox"/> SWL

JOE - THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING!

-73-

Gwinnett County Amateur Radio Society

We held a General class followed by testing resulting in 1 new ham (passing both Technician & General) and 11 upgrades to General.



Dots, Dashes & Tidbits

POTA in South Georgia

Eddie KO4NLL and I, Robbie W1RCP, talked about doing a Parks on the Air (POTA) activation shortly after he passed his Technician exam in March 2021. I wanted to do an activation, but I didn't want to start a first without having Eddie with me. I decided to wait until he was a General before doing my first park activation.

Eddie passed his General exam and was issued his upgrade in mid-May 2021. We made a plan to hit our local park, Doerun Pitcherplant Bog WMA (POTA# K-7882). On June 5, 2021 we both headed to the park with my IC-718 and a 20m ham stick antenna and made about 15 QSOs each. I actually had 16 because one hunter didn't know Eddie was calling him.

Sometimes Eddie would sneak out to the park and play radio without me. We had a friendly battle going so one day when he was at work I went out and made 105 CW QSOs to catch up to him. On a hot late July day in Southwest Georgia we set out to cross the **1000th qualifying QSO** mark (dups don't count). Once we both neared the 950 QSO range we were both very careful to keep it under 1000. We both were able to make enough QSOs to pass the 1000 QSO milestone. In doing so we both received a "KILO" award from Parks on the Air. *(See our certificates in the "Awards" section)*

We have had a wonderful time playing radio outside, and we look forward to many more days and nights out in the park giving POTA hunters another Q in the log!

Northwest Georgia accessible repeater

The South Pittsburg Mountain (TN) has a **new VHF repeater**. As you may know, the VHF frequency pair that we had previously coordinated for that location (147.255MHz) was causing interference with an established repeater on that same frequency. Thanks to Danny Griffith and Randy Sweeney and special thanks to Emmett Perdue for always being there to lend a hand and a world of knowledge. Try our new frequency, 147.150MHz + offset and 151.4Hz tone.

National Weather Service vs. Technology

Provided by Brian Haren, via GAARES

An interesting story from several perspectives.

- NOAA Weather Radio is critical infrastructure, but the Feds can't even keep that running right
- The old technology base is failing, but...

Sometimes, old stuff just keeps working. Read the part where the DFW forecast office lost the ability to upload info into the digital warning system via fiber and satellite, but old-fashioned broadcast Weather Radio transmissions kept on working. Regardless of the amount of money and wishful thinking you throw at a problem, there are still vulnerabilities. There's still a need for our services, as the last paragraph strongly implies.

<https://slate.com/technology/2022/08/noaa-weather-radio-emergency-communication.html>

Online Technician Class

Passing along information about this online Technician licensing course provided by the National Electronics Museum Radio Club in Maryland:

A free, weekly, live, Amateur Radio Technician Class Licensing course on Zoom will begin on Thursday, Sept 8, and will run through Thursday, October 20 (7 sessions).

The three-hour sessions will start at 6:30 PM Eastern Time. These are the classes that we have been holding for years sponsored by the National Electronics Museum.

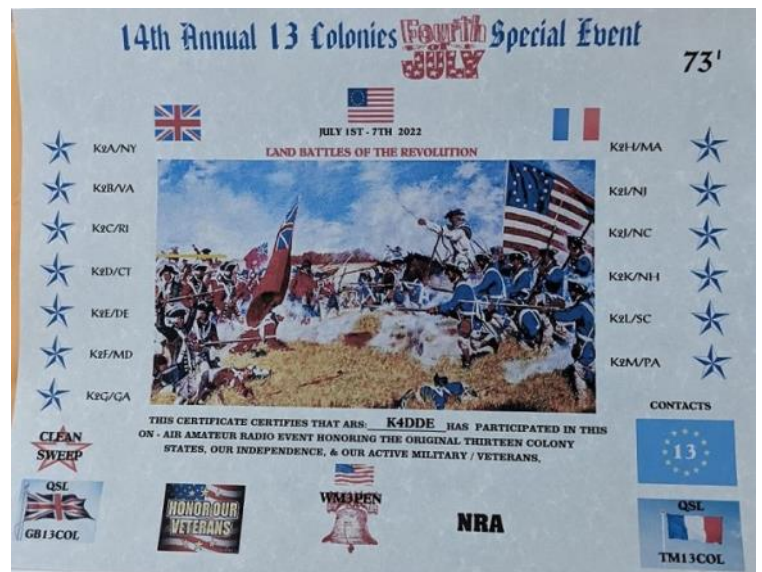
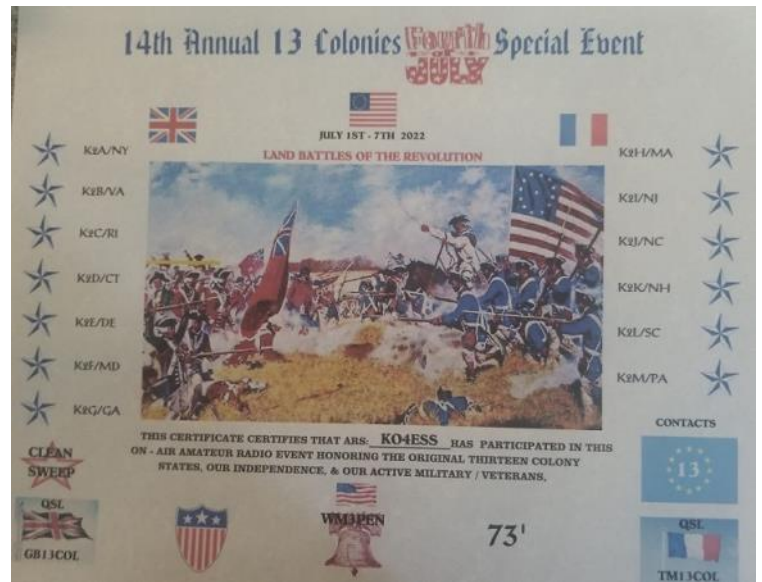
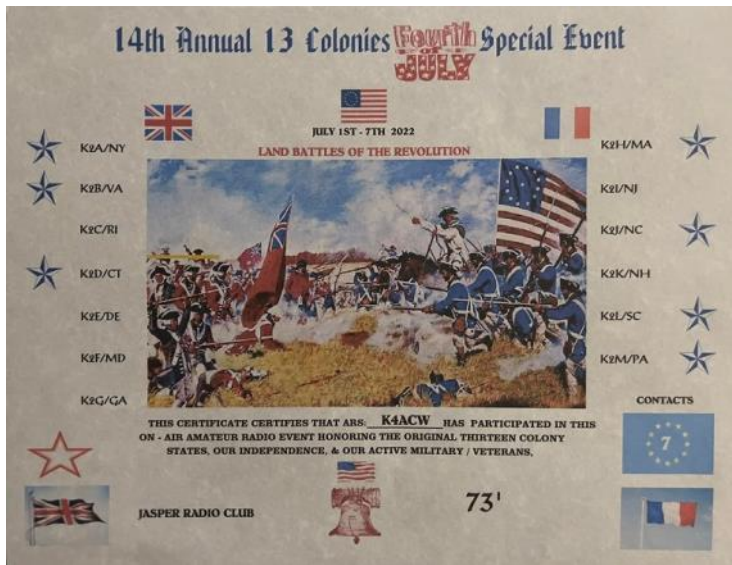
Those wishing to sign up should email roland.anders@comcast.net.

Ham Radio Still Has A Role In Our Modern Age

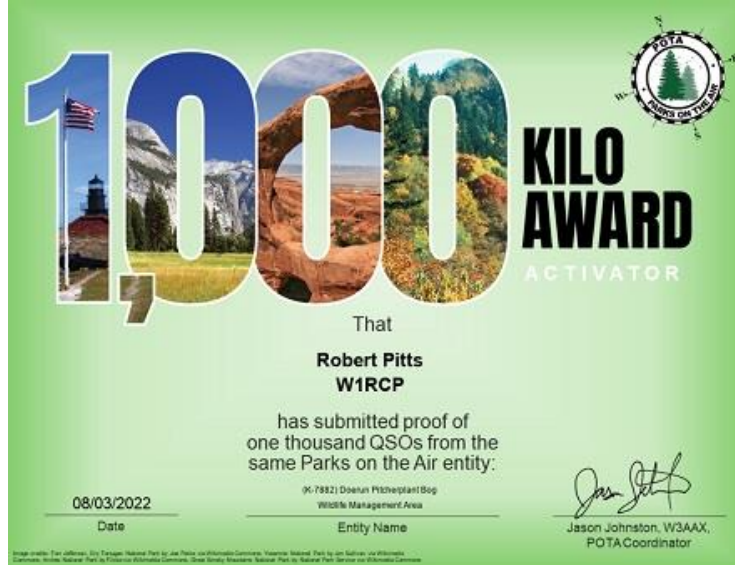
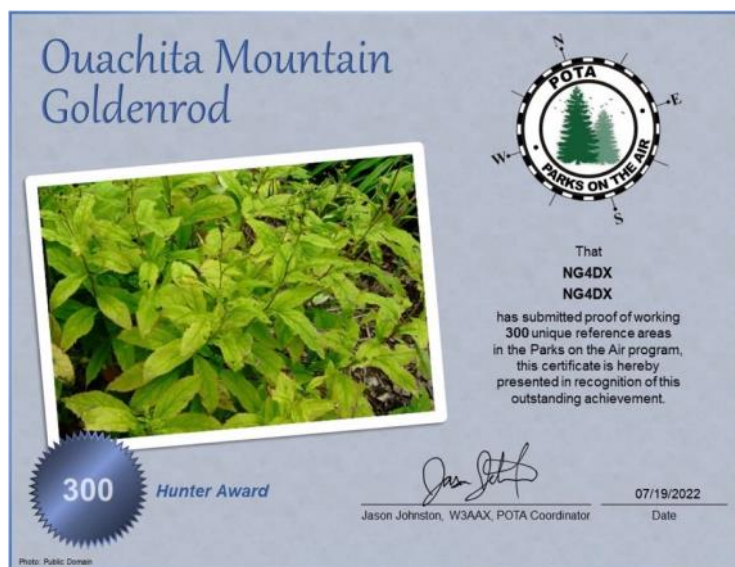
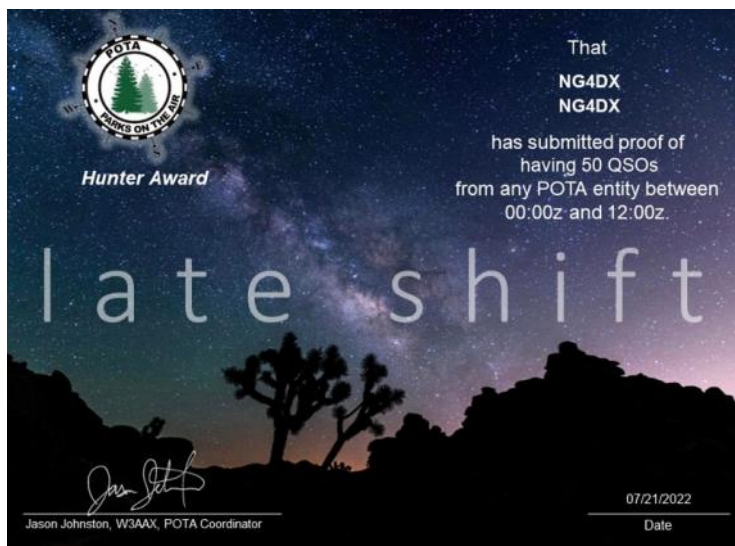
Here's nice ham story, out of Toledo Ohio, about the continued relevance of amateur radio in today's world.

<https://www.13abc.com/2022/07/08/ham-radio-still-has-role-our-modern-age/>

Awards



Awards



Georgia Statewide Resources

Georgia Section Nets

A complete list of nets can be found at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1I3E_aZoXOEtbWTD3KTmXLgypRaPZ80-/view?usp=sharing

ARES Phone & Digital Nets

Note: GA ARES Net information can be found at gaares.org – Select Nets & Frequencies

Georgia Section ARES Net

Georgia Section ARES Digital Nets, including:

Winlink

PSK & Traffic Nets

D-RATS Net

Georgia Cracker Net

Georgia Single Sideband Association Net

Georgia Traffic & Emergency Net

Georgia Section Technical Specialists

These are Georgia Radio Amateurs who have volunteered to help support Amateur Activity. If you have experience and "know-how" in any aspect of the Amateur Radio Service and want to help others, contact Section Manager David Benoist, AG4ZR at ag4zr@arri.net

Ron West WB3ILX – Specialist in digital communication and radio systems. Experience with most of the common digital systems including Winlink, FLDigi, Dstar, DMR to name a few. wb3ilx@gmail.com North Metro Atlanta

E.B. "Sparks" Simmons KK4IB – Specialist in AREDN radio and networking systems. Experience with AREDN network construction, linking, and application interface. kk4ib@arri.net Warner Robins

David Bury KC4JIR – Specialist in AREDN radio and networking systems. Experience with AREDN network construction, linking, and application interface. kc4jir@arri.net Warner Robbins

David Slotter W3DJS – Specialist in all things digital and network related. David offers support in a broad range of Amateur digital and software support and is the author and developer of the HamPi application. hamradioquestions@slotter.net North Metro Atlanta

Georgia on My Mind is a monthly newsletter of the ARRL, Georgia Section, highlighting the activities of Amateur Radio Operators and Clubs within the State.

To submit pictures, articles, or notices, please email the editor Karen Spradlin, K4LJS, at GeorgiaSectionARRL@gmail.com

A.R.E.S. Monthly Report for July 2022

Number of DECs/ECs reporting - 45

Number of ARES nets - 1377

Nets with NTS liaison - 4

Number of Exercises &

Training Sessions - 644(2406.68 hrs.)

Number of Public Service events - 18 (463 hrs.)

Number of Emergency Operations - 12 (13 hrs.)

Number of SkyWarn Operations - 12 (76 hrs.)

Total of 686 Exercises & Events

Total of 2,958.7 person hours

July 2022 Net Report

*Definitions: QNI - Check-ins
QTC - messages processed or passed*

GA ARES Phone Net

QNI 306 Relayed check-ins from local nets 659
Total 965 in 5 Sessions

GA ARES Digital Nets

Winlink 245

Traffic Net 51

PSK Net 0

Digital Total 367 in 15 Sessions (5 each)

GA SSB Net

QNI 2125, QTC 21 in 31 Sessions

GA Cracker Net

QNI 650, QTC 6 in 31 Sessions

GA Traffic and Emergency Net (GTEN)

QNI 1260, QTC 23 in 31 Sessions

GSN (GA State CW Net)

QNI 163, QTC 37, 57 Sessions

GTN (GA Training Net - CW)

QNI 282, QTC 0, 31 Sessions

Total: QNI 5812, QTC 87, 201 nets conducted